

adult male near Greencastle (Butler, 'Birds of Indiana'). In the present case, the Black Rails were found in an alfalfa field with a marshy edge on a drainage ditch. The birds were working their way along rows of cut alfalfa when two young boys discovered them and tried to flush them. The birds would not fly but ran to cover in the hay. The boys succeeded in capturing them and put them in a canary-bird's cage for the night. The male escaped and next morning an egg was found in the cage. The boys had thought these were immature birds but finding the egg so aroused their interest that they came to Kokomo for help in identification and were sent to me. The female died on June 10, 1936. The egg was 1.011 x 0.756 inches, nearly oval, creamy white, very smooth and glossy; the shell was sprinkled with irregular small reddish-brown spots, larger and more numerous at the larger end of the egg. Comparatively few of the spots could be called dots. This female Black Rail was mounted and the specimen with one egg is to be given to the Field Museum of Natural History.—(MRS.) ALTA R. COX, 316 N. Union Street, Kokomo, Indiana.

Franklin's Gull in Ontario.—On August 31, 1936, Mr. C. Molony and the writer visited Wasaga Beach, Simcoe County, Ontario, on Georgian Bay. Driving along the beach, we were attracted by a small gull which was in company with several Ring-billed Gulls. This bird was quite striking when contrasted with its larger companions and appeared to be in winter plumage, being dusky about the eyes, ears and back of head. When collected it proved to be a Franklin's Gull (*Larus pipixcan*). The writer is indebted to Mr. L. L. Snyder and Mr. J. L. Baillie of the Royal Ontario Museum of Zoology, who confirmed the identification of the specimen as that of a female in the last stage intermediate condition of plumage between the first-nuptial and the second-winter plumage. The specimen is now in the museum's collection. There appear to be only three published records of Ontario specimens: Thomas McIlwraith records two individuals taken at Hamilton, one by John Dynes in Oct. 1865, and the other by McIlwraith in the following April ('Birds of Ontario,' p. 39, 1886). These specimens are not now known to be extant, and are not in the McIlwraith Collection of mounted birds in Hamilton. The only other record is of one shot at Toronto by C. K. Rogers, June 1, 1898, and now in the collection of J. H. Fleming (Auk, vol. 47, pp. 65-66, 1930).—O. E. DEVITT, Toronto, Ontario.

Sabine's Gull on Long Island.—On October 17, 1936, the wind blew with almost hurricane force directly from the sea upon the south shore of Long Island, New York. At Mecox Bay, near Watermill, large numbers of Herring, Ring-billed, and Laughing Gulls took refuge on the sand-flats. Among them, hovering over the inrushing surf, was a single Sabine's Gull (*Xema sabini*), and this bird remained on the bay until the evening of the next day, when it flew out to sea with some Laughing Gulls. It was not seen on the nineteenth, but it returned from sea, again with Laughing Gulls, on the morning of the twentieth, and alit on the flats. Several attempts were then made to collect it, but it was impossible to stalk the gulls to within shotgun range, as there was absolutely no cover, and as soon as a few gulls rose into the air, all the others would follow. I was able, however, to approach close enough to pick out the Sabine's Gull even while the birds were at rest, most easily because of the different shape and smaller size of its head and bill, as well as by the yellow color of the terminal portion of its otherwise dark bill. This feature I had not observed on the first day of the bird's appearance. In flight, identification was a simple matter even at long range, and among hundreds of other swirling gulls. The unique and conspicuous wing-pattern marked it from afar. The pattern is not easy to describe concisely, but the general effect was of two differently colored,

contiguous triangles upon the upper surface of each wing. The distal triangle included the outer primaries, the tip of the wing, and the outer portion of the posterior border of the wing, and was black. The proximal triangle included the inner primaries, a few of the outer secondaries, the inner portion of the posterior border of the first joint of the wing, and was white. The rest of the wing, except for a narrow, white, posterior margin, was blue-gray in color, as was the mantle, of a shade slightly paler, but approximating that of the Laughing Gull. Traces of the black hood persisted upon the nape and occiput. The forked tail was readily seen, but was not a striking field-mark. The general "habitus" of the bird was not that of a Laughing Gull, its flight was more buoyant, the "tail-end" of the body rather attenuated—but these are rather intangible characters!—WILLIAM TOD HELMUTH, 3d, 667 Madison Ave., New York City.

Arctic Three-toed Woodpecker on Long Island.—On October 13, 1936, an Arctic Three-toed Woodpecker (*Picoides arcticus*), was seen at Easthampton, Long Island, New York. The bird was feeding in a stand of old pitch pines, and called attention to itself by a ringing, metallic, monosyllabic call. It was restless, but not shy, and was finally collected after a brief period of observation. The specimen was turned over to Dr. Ernst Mayr, of the American Museum of Natural History. The bird was a male.—WILLIAM TOD HELMUTH, 3d, 667 Madison Ave., New York City.

New Records for Spanish Honduras.—When taking the long and monotonous railroad trip from La Ceiba to Puerto Castilla on March 15, 1936, I encountered two Gray Kingbirds (*Tyrannus dominicensis*), and a small flock of Cedar Waxwings (*Bombycilla cedrorum*), with ample opportunity for identification. Unfortunately I had neither the permission nor the opportunity to collect specimens. Neither species has previously been recorded from Honduras according to Stone (see Proc. Acad. Nat. Sci. Philadelphia, vol. 84, pp. 291–415, 1932).—JAMES BOND, *Acad. Nat. Sciences, Philadelphia, Pa.*

Willow Thrush in the Magdalen Islands.—A breeding male of *Hylocichla fuscescens*, taken by me on Grindstone Island (Magdalen Islands) on June 26, 1936, proves to belong to the western and Newfoundland race, *salicicola*, and is in no sense intermediate between this well-marked form and the Veery (*H. f. fuscescens*). It would seem likely that the individuals of this species found in summer on Anticosti Island are likewise referable to this race.—JAMES BOND, *Acad. Nat. Sciences, Philadelphia, Pa.*

Early nesting of the Cape Sable Seaside Sparrow.—On March 30, 1934, near Flamingo in Monroe County, Florida, Messrs. J. Adger Smyth, D. S. Riggs, and the writer observed a young Cape Sable Seaside Sparrow (*Ammospiza mirabilis*). The bird had not been out of the nest more than a day or two. The set of eggs from which this youngster hatched must have been deposited during the first week in March.—J. C. HOWELL, *Cornell University, Ithaca, N. Y.*

Lincoln's Sparrow nesting in Maine.—On June 14, 1936, Mr. Walter Clayton, of Lincoln, discovered a nest of the Lincoln's Sparrow (*Melospiza l. lincolni*) in "Keen's Bog" near Chester, Maine (Penobscot Co.). The nest, which Mr. Clayton kindly showed me, was imbedded in the sphagnum moss, near the middle and in an open part of the bog, and contained four eggs, apparently about to hatch. The female was very shy but the characteristic breast markings were noted, serving to identify